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CIVIL WAR LETTERS OF THE RODMAN FAMILY OF FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA INCLUDING JOHN F. RODMAN (53RD INDIANA, CO. E), BENJAMIN M. RODMAN AND WILLIAM T. RODMAN (BOTH OF THE 23RD INDIANA, CO. C)

[Owned in the 1960s by Mrs. Myrtle E. Packwood, 304 N. Harrison St., Salem, IN]

[Copied for the collection of the Allen County Public Library under the direction of Fred J. Reynolds in the 1960s]

Allen County Public Library
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No. 63

Camp Near Lagrange Tenn
November the 25th 1862

Respected
Parents This evening I take my pen in hand to inform you I am well at present hoping these few lines may find you all well as for as I have nothing of any importance to write I recived your letter the other day and was glad to hear from you you that mother had Sent Socks and Mittens for me we drew our extra Clothing the other day we could not draw but one pair of socks but will soon I dont particularly need them Just now but will before long you Said you Could not send them boots I was Glad you did not send them for they might a got Lost

I Understood Sergt
Miller was accidentally
Shot may be have his
leg amputated. If we
Strike any place where you
can send me them boots
I will let you know
there is great talk now
of peace before a great while
I was over to see Ben & Thos
Yesterday they was well we are
in Gen. McPherson Corps
now. You may send me a
dollar in your next letter
our Sutlers Stock has gone
out now will not be paid
for awhile yet. Nothing more
at present. write soon

Jno C. Rodman
Co E 53rd Ind Vol

Natchez Miss October the 16th 63

Respected Brothers

This morning I have an opportunity of writing you a few lines to let you know how I am getting along I am well and hoped this may reach you all enjoying good health.

Well newt & Bruce we are having the finest times at natchez you ever heard of. our regiment is Provost Guards and dont have to go on guard only twice a week, and are relieved at nine o'clock P.M. Company F. is mounted and they relieve us at night

we have built barracks and live as snug as the best of them. Col. Jones told us this morning we could draw all the extra bedding we wanted for we was going to stay here all winter I was detailed to go to Vicksburg the other night but the boat left before we got ready.

Newt Gore and Bruce dont write often enough I have not got no letters from you Since we have been here. Our camp is right on top of the bluff and its the nicest scene you ever saw we can see all over Tensas Parish La and for ten miles up and down the river

They have church here every Sunday at Different churches I have been to Several but of all the Catholic Churches takes the Socks. not making Sport of them but it and it is more like a theater Them church they have the largest church in town and the house is Crowded every Sunday the Soldiers goes just to Gratify their curiosity well I am on duty to day and wont have time to write any more but you must write often tell Matilda Mc and Martha to drop a word once and awhile

Yours Respectfully

John F. Rodman

Vicksburg Miss Sept 3rd 1863

Dear Father & Mother

with pleasure I take my pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you know that we are all well.
we left here on the 21st of last month on an expedition in Louisiana. and we got back last night we had a pretty hard march of it some days it was so warm we could hardly stand it, we passed through some of the finest Country I ever saw and some pretty swampy. we had to use swamp water the most of the time, we went to a town called Monroe a nice place situated on the washatau river. we was sent for to come out there by the citizens to drive away some Texas rebs that was in there we found the people there all

night. I think they are decidedly
for the union. but the Boasted
Texas bullys left just before we
arrived. they was mostly cavalry
so it was useless for us to go further.
I got a letter from John this
morning he is at Natches now
he says it is nice place they
have plenty of produce there.
they are all well
Joe Merchant and Watts
has got Back. they say they
had a fine time while up
there. Thomas and Beal Squirier
will be at home before long if
we do not leave here, I do not
know whether I will get to come
or not, I will if I can. but you
need not expect me soon.
I must close for the present
your respectfully
B M Radmon

Lagrange Texas

November 10th

Dear Father & Mother I seat myself this morning to write you a few lines to let you know that we are well at present hoping when this reaches you it will find you the same from home for two months so I thought I would write again there is nothing of importance going on here only the rebels are leaving Holly Springs as that is the report there as for the truth of it I do not know but I would rather they would stand and give us a fight for I believe it is easier than running after them we left Bolivar the 2nd of this month it is very dusty traveling and it is so dry that nearly every thing was burned between here and Bolivar fencing and cotton gins and some dwellings was burned but it was done

against orders but there is some in the Army that cares nothing for orders so they don't get Caught. Lt Bryan is here this division at the decision that he is in near Grand Junction about three miles from here the Division that Bates is in is about six miles in advance of us I saw him the 3rd of this month he was well and hearty I heard that Jamie Beard was Dead I want you to write whether he is or not I believe I have wrote about all I can think of now tell Uncle Rob & Marion to write or let it come Last which they please for I have written to them last tell Newton & Bruce to write to me for I have not received a letter from them since we left Peachtree so no more at present write soon

Wm J. Rodman